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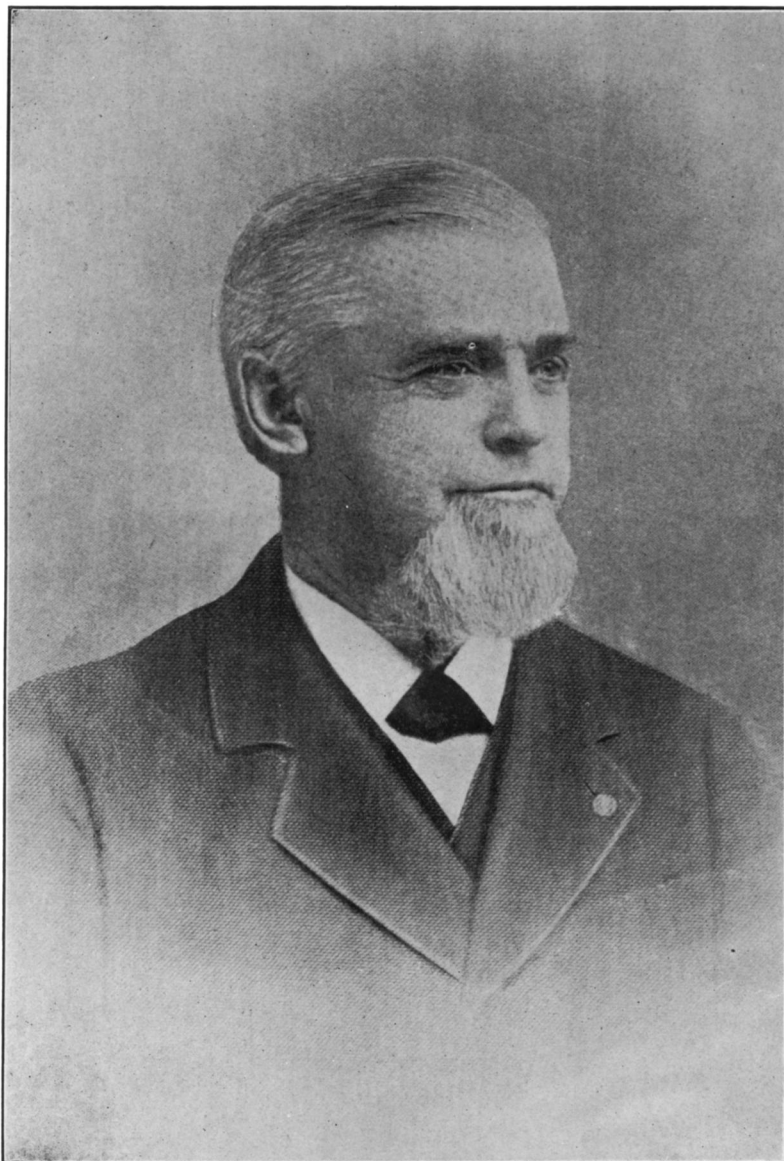
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WILLIAM H. COLLINS.

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William H. Collins, a director of the Illinois State Historical Society since its organization and one of the founders of the Society, died at his home in Quincy, Illinois, July 29, 1910.

William H. Collins belonged to a family historic in the annals of the State of Illinois. He was born March 20, 1831, in the town of Collinsville, Illinois, which town was named for the Collins family, who settled there in 1817, the family having moved to that place from Litchfield, Conn., and established a tan yard, erected a mill for grinding corn and wheat, and for sawing lumber. Wm. H. Collins was educated at Illinois college, Jacksonville, and later took a course of literature, philosophy and theology at Yale. He served as the pastor of the Congregational church at LaSalle, Illinois, and in 1858 became editor of the Jacksonville Journal, which he conducted until the breaking out of the civil war. He was elected chaplain of the 10th Illinois regiment of infantry volunteers but resigned in 1863 and organized a company of the 104th Illinois Volunteers, of which he was chosen captain. He participated in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. He later served on the staff of Gen. John M. Palmer, commander of the Fourteenth Army Corps. He resigned in 1864 and was appointed, by Secretary Stanton, provost marshal of the 12th district of Illinois, continuing in this service until the close of the war. He then engaged in the manufacturing business in Quincy, Illinois, being at the head of the Collins Plow Company for twenty-five years. He served as alderman of the city of Quincy, and served two terms in the Legislature of the State, being a member of the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth General Assemblies.

Mr. Collins was deeply religious, but he was at the same time a very broad minded and tolerant man. His family were very pronounced in their hatred of human slavery and its members bore no small part in the work of the underground railroad in aiding fugitive slaves to obtain their freedom. He loved his native state and had a genuine love for its welfare, its progress and its history. He was one of the most prominent members of the Quincy Historical Society and one of its most active and influential workers.

He was, of course, being a clergyman, interested in the religious denomination with which he was connected and he gave much thought to the records of the Congregational church in Illinois. His family life was ideal, as it must have been when the head of the family was a man of such deep culture, gentle and courteous manners, a keen sense of humor and a high regard for the rights of other people.

At the funeral of Mr. Collins a sermon was preached from the text, "And thou wilt be missed, because thy seat will be empty," and nothing could have been more appropriate than the beautiful words which were suggested by this text for truly in every one of Mr. Collin's relations in life he will be missed and his place can not be filled.

He was a devoted husband, loving father, faithful friend, wise counsellor and generous and helpful co-laborer.

We believe that the prayer which he uttered in the lines of a beautiful poem which he wrote a few years ago has been answered and that he has entered into the "ampler life" which his soul craved.

"Oh, Spirit of Love and Light, guide me
So that my life shall prove a manly part
Of the moral order of this great universe.
When end my four score years and more, let me
(My anchor cast, my earthly work all done)
Step erect from deck to ampler life
Upon the eternal shore."